

PHYLLOSTICTA LEAF SPOT OF CHINESE WISTERIA

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Chinese wisteria, *Wisteria sinensis* (Sims) Sweet, is a woody, twining vine, native to China, and is commonly cultivated as an ornamental for its foliage and striking, drooping racemes of white, pink or lavender sweetpea-like flowers. It is hardy in the North, but most common in the southeastern states where it has become naturalized.

One of the more striking foliage diseases of Chinese wisteria is caused by *Phyllosticta wistariae* Sacc. (2,3), which is considered more important in the South. This disease has been reported from Florida (1), Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey and Texas (2,4).

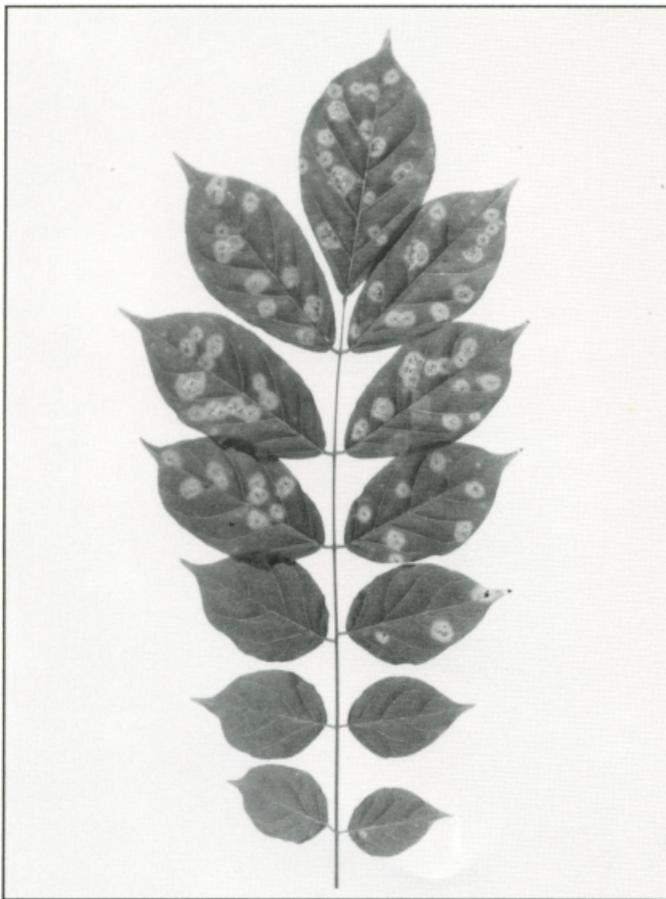


Figure 1. *Phyllosticta* leaf spot of Chinese wisteria. DPI File #702540.

SYMPTOMS: Leaf spots caused by *Phyllosticta wistariae* are very distinct in appearance. They are usually numerous, subcircular to irregular, yellow lesions with a somewhat brown-speckled center, rarely coalescing, and up to 6 mm in diameter (Fig. 1).

CONTROL: This disease does not appear to occur frequently at high incidences; however, if leaf-spotting does occur at seriously high levels, consulting with the local county extension director for control measures is recommended.

SURVEY AND DETECTION: The appearance of usually numerous, yellow leaf spots with a brown speckled center is evidence of this disease.

LITERATURE CITED

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